

STARS AND STRIPES®

Monday, September 1, 2003

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas www.stripes.com

Alleged Saddam tape denies bombing role

BY STEVEN R. HURST

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — As a huge funeral procession for a beloved Shiite cleric marched to the holy city of Najaf, Arab TV broadcast an audiotape Monday purportedly from Saddam Hussein denying any involvement in the bombing that killed the moderate ayatollah.

The U.S.-picked Iraqi Governing Council, meanwhile, named a new Cabinet in a step toward reclaiming some powers from the American occupiers. The new government mirrors the ethnic and religious makeup of the 25-member council.

The voice on the tape appeared to be that of Saddam and employed his well-known rhetorical flourishes in urging Iraqis not to believe those who blamed him and his followers for Friday's attack on the sacred Imam Ali shrine in Najaf that killed Ayatollah Mohammad Baqir al-Hakim and 124 other people.

"Many of you may have heard the snakes hissing, the servants of the invaders, occupiers, infidels, and how they have managed to accuse the followers of Saddam Hussein of responsibility for the attack on al-Hakim without any evidence," said the tape, broadcast by the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera satellite television station and the Lebanese Broadcasting Corp.

"They rushed to accuse before investigating," the voice said.

While denying a role in the Najaf bombing, the voice made no mention of the Jordanian Embassy bombing on Aug. 7 or the U.N. headquarters attack 12 days later, which investigators suspect may also have been committed by Saddam followers.

It was impossible to immediately authenticate the tape. The CIA said Monday it was reviewing the recording.

Al-Hakim, killed in Friday's huge blast shortly after delivering a sermon calling for Iraqi unity, was a longtime opponent of Saddam and spent more than two decades in exile in Iran, returning only in May.

His remains are to be buried in Najaf

on Tuesday when the funeral procession reaches the ayatollah's hometown. It started in Baghdad on Sunday and passed through the second holiest city of Karbala on Monday.

Masses of Iraqi security forces were present Monday throughout Najaf, the country's holiest Shiite city, with 400 police preparing to take up positions around the mosque. U.S. forces could not be seen in the city proper and were believed manning checkpoints on roads into Najaf.

Black banners of mourning, some 150 feet long, were draped across the gold-domed mosque. People could be heard crying inside the shrine.

Some Iraqi police officials leading the investigation of the bombing have said they believe al-Qaida linked Islamic militants were behind the attack — not Saddam loyalists. The FBI said it would help investigate the bombing after receiving a request from local officials.

Also Monday, Iraq's 25-member Governing Council announced a Cabinet, which mirrored exactly the council's ethnic and religious breakdown with 13 Shiites, five Sunni Arabs, five Kurds (also Sunnis), one ethnic Turk and an Assyrian Christian.

The new Foreign Minister will be Hoshiyar Zebari, a spokesman for the Kurdish Democratic Party. The key Oil Ministry will be headed by Ibrahim Mohammed Bahr al-Uloom, the son of Governing Council member Mohammed Bahr al-Uloom, who on Saturday suspended his membership in the interim body because of the lack of security in the country and what he saw as the American's inability to protect prominent figures. The elder Bahr al-Uloom cited the Najaf bombing.

The Information Ministry, which became famous for its distorted accounts of the war, has been abolished.

The council, formed July 13, had been promising for weeks that it would name a government. It was unclear what delayed announcing the Cabinet, but several council members had spent much time after their appointment on trips throughout the world seeking recognition for the body as the legitimate representative of the Iraqi people.



MISHA JAPARIDZE/AP

Iraqi Shiite Muslim guards ride a truck used to transport a symbolic coffin for Iraqi Shiite cleric Ayatollah Mohammed Baqir al-Hakim on Monday during a funeral procession through the streets of Karbala. The cleric was killed, along with dozens of others, when a car bomb was detonated outside the Imam Ali shrine in Najaf, Iraq, on Friday.

U.S. officials have voiced frustration at how long it was taking the council to get to work, especially on taking a greater role in Iraqi security and gathering intelligence that might block more attacks on American forces and prominent Iraqis.

The council said it had been prepared to announce the government late last week but delayed it because of the bombing.

L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. civilian administrator for Iraq, has said an election for a new government could take place as early as the end of 2004 after the adoption of a new constitution.

Iraqi police said the Najaf bomb that exploded after noon prayers Friday contained the equivalent of 1,650 pounds of TNT.

They say the 19 suspects arrested so far may have links to al-Qaida.

The death toll stood at 125 with 142 wounded, some seriously, said Maj. Rick Hall, spokesman for the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines.

He said the Marine transfer of patrols in Najaf to an international force led by Poland, set for this week, had been put on hold. The overall handover ceremony will still take place Wednesday in Hilla.

Life can be hard for the children of warfighters

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — It's not easy when your dad's off fighting a war.

"We used to go to the gym and stuff," said 14-year-old Stanley Douglas Jr., whose father, Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Douglas Sr. of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Brigade, was sent to Iraq in March.

"He's real nice — you could talk to him about anything. I kind of feel different now, like I'm the man of the house and stuff."

"I'm scared," Stanley said. "Like if he never comes back, life is going to be real hard."

Many kids in Vicenza have been put in a tough spot. Their fathers and mothers will be gone until spring. Some news reports from Iraq are of suicide bombings and soldiers dying.

Spouses aren't the only ones left behind on the home front.

Annette Evans, chief of the Family Support Division of Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Vicenza, said it helps that military kids are resilient.

They're used to moving every two or three years, to

changing schools and scenery, she said. But Operation Iraqi Freedom has affected them differently.

"I think they want to express their support more than in the past," Evans said. "They're anxious to express their feelings more so in this deployment and we want that. Even if it's anger, we want them to express that."

"The [children] who aren't acknowledging their feelings are the ones we want to reach out to the most."

People like Tammy Hospodarsky and Elliot Oliver are in place to help keep kids busy. They're college students from the United States with Camp Adventure, a program that keeps kids busy with activities such as arts and crafts, cooking, chess and checkers and sports.

Each has spent several summers overseas keeping the kids of the troops busy.

"Having fun — that's our job," Hospodarsky said. "We get their minds on having fun. They're kids — they deserve it."

"These kids have been here waiting by the front door for four months," Oliver said. "Sometimes they act like they're 30 years old. They've got to get back down to the age they're at."

Some kids aren't old enough to know the difference.

Isabella Monticelli, 5 months, will have to wait to get to know her dad, Army Spc. Pietro Monticelli of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, who deployed in March, a few days after Isabella was born.

"He hasn't been here for any of her monumental milestones," said Cindy Monticelli, Isabella's mother and Pietro's wife. "She's rolled over, started food, started teething. I fear she will be up and walking before he gets back."

"She doesn't know his smell or his touch. She's not had him give her a bath or play with her."

Isabella isn't old enough to know about the bad things happening in the world. Other children sort of know.

Caleb Staley is the son of Army Pfc. Darrell Staley of Company Charlie, 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry Regiment. Little Caleb is old enough to tell anyone who asks, "My daa-dee-rak." That's toddler talk for, "My daddy is in Iraq."

But Caleb doesn't understand war, peacekeeping and other weighty matters. His mom said Caleb thinks his daddy is "just working."

"He misses his dad," Rachel Staley said. "He'll get upset and start crying and ask, 'Where's daddy?'"

See CHILDREN on Page 2

Report: U.S. offers Pakistan \$9B arms sale

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The United States has offered to sell \$9 billion worth of arms to Pakistan to help it enhance its defense capability, a newspaper reported Monday.

Pakistan's army refused to make any immediate comment on the report, but acknowledged that a meeting of Pakistani and U.S. defense officials — the Pakistan-US Defense Consultative Group — was to be held in Washington later this month to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between Pakistan and America.

The meeting is tentatively scheduled for the second week of this month, Gen. Shaikat Sultan, a spokesman for the Pakistan military, told The Associated Press. The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad was closed Monday because of the American Labor Day holiday.

The group last met in September 2002 in Pakistan, after the lifting of U.S. sanctions on the country. Washington had imposed many of the sanctions after Pakistan's nuclear tests in 1998.

Despite the improved relations, some penalties remain. For instance, Congress continues to block the release of 28 F-16 fighter jets that Pakistan bought 13 years ago.

At a meeting in Camp David in June with Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, President Bush announced a \$3 billion aid package, half of it for defense. However, the American president made clear that the F-16s were not part of the deal.

Pakistan, which has become a key ally of the United States in the war on terror, has been urging Washington to help it beef up its military with modern weapons and equipment, and to revive the F-16 deal.

Pakistan's largest English-language daily, The News, said renewal of the F-16 purchase was "on the agenda of the Washington meeting."

Sultan said he had no information about what would be discussed at the talks. Pakistan also will seek to purchase high-tech radar and optical devices and missiles, the paper reported.

From The Associated Press

Children

Continued from Page 1

Caleb isn't the only one who misses Darrell Staley. Two-year-old Faith is growing up fast, and 3-month-old Darrell Jr. hasn't even met his daddy.

"(Caleb) likes to play rough and stuff and I can't do that," Rachel Staley said. "They all used to get so excited when he came home from work. It was the highlight of their day."

Now, mommy has to pack all three kids into the family car just to run to the store for milk or diapers.

Margie Mayville's dad is an important guy — Col. William Mayville, commander of the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

Margie, 13, has the benefit of occasionally seeing her father with her own eyes.

"When I see him on the news it makes me happy," Margie said. "But it's kind of scary, though, to think about what he does every day."

Whether they're privates or colonels, all dads and moms are important to their children. For her part, Margie said she misses the kayaking trips she used to take with her father.

"It's just really weird," she said. "Whenever I walk into my dad's office, no one's in there. It's like an abandoned base here."

Margie's advice to her fellow war orphans: "Don't think about it for too long. Just be sure you know they're out there for a reason and are doing their job."

Air Force Master Sgt. Ed Coufal of the 31st Security Forces at Aviano Air Base, about 90 miles north of Vicenza, already has come back.

Coufal was deployed in March, a few days after his son Daniel's first birthday.

"Before, when I'd get home and talk to my wife, he was barely walking," Coufal said. "Now I see a 2½-foot child run past me."

Little Daniel was a bit standoffish to Daddy when he first got back. Things are better now.

"You have a certain relationship with a child — holding him, spending time," Coufal said. "I guess it was the newness and not knowing me."

Caneatna Mallory knows her father, Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Mallory of the 1st Battalion of the 508th Infantry Regiment is "in Iraq somewhere."

Sunday dinners aren't the same without him. Steak is her dad's favorite.

"We used to get together at the table to discuss our days," said the 17-year-old. "We'd all busy, busy. But he'd make us stop and sit down and eat dinner."

"I have dreams of him like he's home, but I don't have nightmares."

Her 14-year-old brother, Mike, said his dad's absence has made him more independent and taught him not to rely on his parents for everything.

But some things he can't do on his own.

"I miss him taking me on father-son trips like in Germany and different places around Italy," Mike said, "and being able to talk with him about girls and stuff."

Little Isabella Monticelli has to go without those comforts for the time being. Her father, Pietro, isn't due home until March.

"When she wakes up in the night crying, he's not there to comfort her," Monticelli said. "She's missing that bonding and attention that's so vital in the first year."

Isabella has grown up, so far, around women. Monticelli said her daughter gets pouty-faced around strange men.

"In general she's very friendly and outgoing," Monticelli said. "We're hoping when he gets home ... she won't know he's Papa, but will still be very friendly and outgoing with him."

E-mail Charlie Coon at: coonc@mail.estripes.osd.mil

News tracker: What's new with old news

Nation

Muslim leader resigns: Imam W. Deen Mohammed, the black Muslim spiritual leader who over three decades transformed how American blacks practice the religion, has resigned as head of the American Society of Muslims.

"I'm getting ready ... to do more, to be more productive and to contribute to the good life of the believers," Mohammed said Sunday at the start of his keynote speech at the society's annual convention in Chicago.

Immigrant Muslims held a separate conventions last weekend three miles away.

Sharpton on recall: Democratic presidential candidate Al Sharpton's National Action Network said it plans to send an open letter to California voters requesting that they avoid candidates that are endorsed by former New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani in the gubernatorial recall race.

In the letter, the group cites a list of criticisms it has of Giuliani's civil rights record while he served as mayor, the Daily News reported in Monday editions.

Many speculate that Giuliani will endorse fellow Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Burning Man festival: A woman riding an "art car" at the counterculture Burning Man festival died when she accidentally fell under the vehicle's wheels, authorities said.

The death of Katherine Lampman on Saturday was the most serious in a series of accidents at the weeklong huge desert revel, where thousands of people gather each year in a celebration of art, performance and individuality.

At least five people were taken to area hospitals after two plane crashes at the festival's temporary airstrip, and a truck bringing 30,000 pounds of ice to the remote site rolled over, slightly injuring one person, officials said Saturday.

Lampman, 21, of Belmont, Calif., was killed about 3 a.m. when she tried to get off the "art car," which is similar to a parade float, said Jamie Thompson, a spokesman for the Bureau of Land Management.

Bank robbery explosion: A friend and co-worker of a pizza deliveryman who robbed a bank then died when a bomb strapped to his body exploded was found dead at his home Sunday.

Police said there was no obvious connection between the two deaths. Still, authorities sent a bomb squad to search the home in Lawrence Park Township as a precaution, Erie, Pa., police Cpl. Mark Zaleski said.

"There was nothing overtly obvious as to the cause of his death," Zaleski said, "but because there's a relationship between the two individuals, we are over there."

Robert Pinetti, 43, worked with Brian Douglas Wells, 46, who died Thursday shortly after robbing a bank in Erie. Minutes before the bomb went off, Wells told officers who stopped him that he had been forced to rob the bank. No one else was injured in the explosion.

Police received a call early Sunday asking for medical assistance at the home where Pinetti lived with his parents, but the man refused medical assistance, Zaleski said.

A few hours later, authorities were called again after his parents found him unresponsive. He was pronounced dead at the home and an autopsy was scheduled, Zaleski said.

War on terrorism

British officer cleared: Investigators from the British and U.S. military have cleared a British officer of allegations he mistreated prisoners of war in Iraq, the Ministry of Defense said Monday.

Ministry of Defense police concluded that no criminal proceedings should be taken against Col. Tim Collins. The investigation was prompted by a U.S. soldier who alleged that Collins' treatment of prisoners of war and an Iraqi civilian leader may have broken the Geneva Convention.

Bombay explosions: Police on Monday charged four people with terrorist acts in India's financial hub, accusing them of setting off three deadly bombs to avenge the deaths of Muslims in religious riots last year.

All four were arrested under India's tough anti-terrorism law.

Three of them — Arshad Ansari, 26, Fahimida Syed Mohammed Hafiz, 37, and her daughter Farheen Rahim, 18 — were produced in a court in Bombay.

The city, officially known as Mumbai, was the target of twin bombings last week which killed 52 people and wounded 150 others.

The fourth suspect, Hanif's husband Syed Rahim, 45, did not appear in court because he was hospitalized with high blood pressure.

World

Kelly inquiry: Weapons adviser David Kelly felt betrayed by the Ministry of Defence for confirming that he might be the source of a media report questioning the British government's case for war in Iraq, his widow testified in London on Monday.

"He said several times over coffee, over lunch, over afternoon tea that he felt totally let down and betrayed," Janice Kelly testified via a video link before a judicial inquiry examining the circumstances of his apparent suicide.

Kelly, 59, was found dead near his rural home days after he was identified as a possible source for a British Broadcasting Corp. claim that the government "sexed up" an intelligence dossier about Iraq's weapons programs.

Understanding SARS: The SARS disease could reappear, a U.N. food agency warned Monday, saying the threat of future outbreaks must be considered real as long as the source of the virus remains obscure.

Health officials are looking into the origin and spread of the disease, trying to assess whether farm animals might have played a role.

The U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization said that Chinese and Canadian authorities have sampled or tested more than 600 farm animals, including chickens, ducks, pigs and rabbits. They have not detected evidence of the SARS virus.

Peace in Northern Ireland: The American diplomat who oversaw Northern Ireland's peace accord said Monday that tensions between the province's British Protestant and Irish Catholic communities could take decades to fade away.

Former U.S. Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell arrived in Belfast for a series of private meetings with leading political leaders, 10 months after the key accomplishment of the 1998 peace deal — a joint Catholic-Protestant government — fell apart.

"I am confident that the vast majority of the people of Northern Ireland and the political leaders want to see this process through and I hope that they will do so," Mitchell said.

Kosovo explosion: A hand grenade exploded in a shop in an ethnically mixed village in eastern Kosovo, killing one Serb and injuring four others, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

Milomir Savic, 33, was killed and four other people were injured late Sunday in the blast in the village of Cernica, 20 miles southeast of the provincial capital, Pristina, said Andrea Angeli, a U.N. spokesman.

Mexican leader changes style: President Vicente Fox enters the last three years of his term humbled by midterm election setbacks.

As he prepared to present his third state-of-the-nation address Monday, Fox seemed to be dropping his triumphalist tone, recognizing that much of what Mexicans had hoped for from democracy — prosperity, jobs and progress — has not materialized.

That would represent a break from what some here call "Foxylandia" or "Foxyland" — a Disneyland-like country of rosy, inspirational rhetoric that has come to clash with Fox's lack of concrete results.

Hong Kong protests: Six participants in a mass Hong Kong protest that forced the government to suspend plans to enact an anti-subversion law have filed police brutality complaints, one of the protesters said Sunday.

The demonstrators claimed they were mistreated while being blocked from marching to government headquarters after the July 1 protest concluded, said Lui Yuk-lin, one of the plaintiffs.

Military

Chemical weapons burn: The Army on Sunday began burning about 800 gallons of deadly sarin drained from rockets, marking the most dangerous phase of its Anniston, Ala., weapons incinerator use since the process began here Aug. 8.

The burn was expected to be completed around midnight, Army spokesman Mike Abrams said.

Sarin, also known as "GB," is a nerve agent so deadly a drop on the skin can kill. The chemical was drained from 900 M55 rockets that have been chopped up and burned since the incinerator began operating on Aug. 8.

From wire reports

News from around the war

Troop deaths worry coalition forces

SOFIA, Bulgaria — Bulgarian peacekeepers in Iraq are armed with pistols, automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades, but their secret weapon is a booklet they carry on patrol.

The field guide explains Iraqi customs, basic Arabic and the proper ways to greet women and the elderly. It's part of a charm offensive the Bulgarian military hopes will improve the image of its 470 troops — and help keep them from becoming part of the mounting body count.

"We're doing everything possible to avoid this, said Ilko Dimitrov, deputy defense minister. "We want the Iraqis to understand we're not there to punish them. We're there to help."

Now that the postwar casualty toll of mostly American and British troops has surpassed the number of those killed in major combat, coalition countries are doing whatever they can to minimize the risks to their soldiers in increasingly lawless Iraq.

Although they want to go the distance with the United States, many of the two dozen nations that have deployed about 24,000 troops to back up the 140,000-strong U.S. force are preoccupied with the almost daily deaths.

The security situation is no less worrisome for nations that have made small contributions, such as Denmark, which has a 400-member force in Basra under British command.

Denmark's military said this past week it will pay \$11,600 in compensation for two accidental civilian deaths in the area patrolled by its soldiers.

The goal: "To be able to maintain contact with the local Iraqi leaders in the region" and to "avert possible retaliation actions ... and thereby avert unnecessary risks for the Danish soldiers," the army said in a statement.

Similar concerns have led to some unusual measures.

To make the 312 Czechs stationed at a field hospital in Basra less of a target, the hotel where they are staying hung out a large banner reading "Welcome Czech Experts." Prague media said the hotel took the step after heavy security at the hotel led locals to believe the personnel were Israelis, who are loathed by most Iraqis.

So far, Hungary, with 300 noncombat troops based in Hilla, is the only coalition country to publicly say it will consider withdrawing its forces if security continues to deteriorate.

Although there has been no major public outcry, some Hungarians are concerned that their government has sent young soldiers into harm's way.

The mood in neighboring Romania, which has nearly 700 troops in Iraq, is more stoic.

"We have calculated the risk of death," said army spokesman Maj. Gelaedin Nezir. "There are measures to protect the troops as in any theater of operations. All soldiers are there voluntarily."

Despite the insecurity, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Pasi visited Baghdad after the deadly U.N. headquarters bombing there, ignoring his advisers' warnings "because we decided this is the moment to show solidarity with the Iraqi people."

Pasi insists that Bulgaria's commitment is open-ended and that the country is prepared to stay in Iraq as long as parliament approves.

U.S. allowed to secure holy sites

NAJAF, Iraq — Political and religious authorities in the Shiite holy cities south of Baghdad had demanded from the start of the U.S.-led occupation that Marines in the region keep a low profile and stay away from sacred Muslim shrines.

Both sides were proud of the peace that prevailed as a result.

No U.S. Marine has been killed in Iraq since April 12. By comparison, there have been 68 combat deaths among American soldiers in the rest of the country, primarily in Baghdad.

With Friday's bombing of the Imam Ali shrine in Najaf and the death of 125 people — including the beloved Ayatollah Mohammad Baqir al-Hakim — Iraqi authorities have — to a small degree — dropped their strictures on Americans becoming involved in security at holy sites. They have called for FBI investigators to join the blast inquiry.

In Washington, a spokesman for the FBI, Special Agent John Iannarelli, said Sunday the bureau will join the investigation.

Many Iraqis have taken to blaming the Americans for having done too little to prevent the bombing. Such accusations apparently ignore that U.S. Marines were kept well back from the holy sites on the demands of Shiite leaders.

EU pays tribute to U.N. workers

STRASBOURG, France — Members of the European Parliament paid tribute Monday to slain U.N. envoy to Iraq Sergio Vieira de Mello and other U.N. workers who were killed in a suicide bombing last month.

Despite the attack, the European Union assembly also urged the United Nations to take a greater role in Iraq.

Before calling for a minute of silence, parliament President Pat Cox condemned the attack on the United Nations' Baghdad headquarters Aug. 19, saying U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan had the "full and determined support" of the European Parliament.

The bombing killed 22 people working at the U.N. office, and injured 164 others.

Al-Jazeera relaunches Web site

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The Arab satellite station Al-Jazeera launched an English-language Web site Monday, five months after hackers brought down a temporary site at the height of the Iraq war.

Susi Sirri, news coordinator and spokeswoman, said the site aims "to fill a niche for English speakers who want to get the other side of the story, the Arab perspective."

"We are following Al-Jazeera's model: opinion and counter-opinion. That is the motto of the [organization]," Sirri said from Qatar.

The English site works closely with the television station and its Arabic Web site, launched in 2001, but also has its own staff of nearly 50 Western and Arab journalists, Sirri said.

U.S., British and even Arab officials have criticized Al-Jazeera's coverage of events in the Middle East and its airing of al-Qaida statements, accusing the station of sensationalism, bias, and incitement. Others in the region view it as a courageous addition to the Arab world's mostly state-run media.

Poll: 29% of Britons want out of Iraq

LONDON — Almost a third of Britons think their government should withdraw troops from Iraq swiftly because of the rising death toll among British forces there, according to an opinion poll published Monday.

The survey for The Daily Mirror newspaper found that 29 percent of respondents favored a withdrawal "as soon as possible."

Thirty-two percent wanted British troops to pull out gradually, with a date set for a final withdrawal, while another 32 percent felt they should remain in Iraq for as long as possible.

Polling company ICM Research interviewed 509 people by telephone between Aug. 29-30 for the Daily Mirror poll, which had a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points.

Expectations fuel frustrations

MOSUL, Iraq — Soldiers with the 101st Airborne Division are having more trouble winning Iraqi hearts and minds than they did vanquishing Saddam Hussein's army. On any given day, troops are rebuilding looted schools, helping set up town councils or delivering water and pension payments.

But Mosul resident Mohammed Hassan is unimpressed.

"The Americans are able to do the simple things. But they haven't done anything important like put in new water pipelines, fix the power station and collect the garbage," said Hassan, a 41-year-old engineer. "Up to now, nothing has happened."

The gap between what Iraqi citizens expect from their occupiers and what coalition forces have been able to provide is feeding tension across the country. In this city of 2 million-plus, Iraqis feel cheated, soldiers feel unappreciated and each says the other is increasingly hostile.

"People thought as soon as the war was over, George Bush would come in and build a Wal-Mart, a Sears Roebuck and a nuclear power station in three weeks," said Col. Stephen Bruch, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade of the Army's 101st Airborne. "It can't happen."

Most soldiers never dreamed they would be held accountable by the Mosul citizenry for restoring essential services. But being the only American faces here, they are the prime targets of residents' wrath.

"Sometimes it's hard for them to see the good we are doing here," said Lt. Dan Stuewe. "You feel they don't appreciate it and don't know what freedom is."

Some Mosul residents are appreciative. "Americans offer us many things, but Iraqis don't want to acknowledge it," said street vendor Matti Bahman, 64.

From wire reports

Taliban suspected in ambush that killed 8 Afghan soldiers

BY NOOR KHAN

The Associated Press

QALAT, Afghanistan — Suspected Taliban fighters attacked an Afghan government checkpoint and ambushed another group of soldiers along the main road linking the south with the capital, killing at least eight soldiers and taking two captive, Afghan officials said Monday.

The attacks came a day after two U.S. soldiers were killed in a 90-minute gunbattle with insurgents in Paktika province, in the east of the country near the border with Pakistan. Four suspected Taliban were killed in that fighting.

Guerrillas from the radical Islamic Taliban regime recently have appeared to regroup, launching bolder and better coordinated attacks in escalating violence against Afghan government targets.

Four U.S. servicemembers have been killed during fighting in less than two weeks.

The attacks on the Afghan soldiers, both near the southern Zabul province mountain range that has been the site

of a week of fierce skirmishes, appeared to be an attempt by the insurgents to distract government forces from the main battle, said Khalil Hotak, the provincial intelligence chief.

A large group of rebels attacked an Afghan checkpoint late Sunday in Shajoi, killing four soldiers and taking the remaining two captive, Hotak said. He said witnesses told authorities the attackers came on foot and escaped in the same manner.

And early Monday, suspected insurgents rode up to another group of Afghan soldiers protecting the Kabul-Kandahar road in Shajoi, killing four soldiers and setting their vehicle ablaze, Hotak said.

"They are trying to distract us from the fighting," he added, speaking to The Associated Press from a command center in Qalat.

"They want to spread our forces out."

Meanwhile, a provincial religious leader, Mulvi Abdul Rahman, told AP that he had spoken to tribal elders in the area and asked them to pass along an offer on behalf of the Zabul governor to the Taliban: Lay down your weapons and we will allow you to return home.

Rahman said he had not received a response, but that negotiations to end the battle peacefully were ongoing.

"Both sides — the present government and the Taliban — are all Afghans. We are all the same people and we have been fighting for 23 years," he said. "Now, I would rather we negotiate rather than fight, so these [Taliban] fighters can go home and help rebuild Afghanistan."

Up in the mountains, U.S. warplanes have been pounding Taliban positions and Afghan and U.S. troops have been pushing across gorges and ravines in an effort to smash the Taliban hideouts, killing dozens of suspected insurgents in one of the fiercest battles since the fall of the hardline regime.

Gen. Haji Saifullah Khan, the main Afghan commander in the area, said by satellite phone that fighting had slowed Monday and there had been a lull in U.S. bombing.

"We are advancing and getting closer and closer to some Taliban positions," he said from Larzab, one of the front-line locations.

Khan said Sunday that intelligence from an informer among the Taliban indicated Taliban reinforcement fighters

had arrived in the area, in the Dai Chupan district of Zabul.

"We have information that more than 250 Taliban entered Dai Chupan district from the neighboring district of Mizan," he said.

The U.S.-allied Afghan forces have also brought in reinforcements, increasing their numbers from 500 to 800 soldiers, Hotak said.

He said hundreds of American troops were in Dai Chupan on Sunday, up from his earlier reports of up to 70 Americans. The U.S. military didn't confirm either number.

There was no word of casualties among government forces Monday.

It was not possible to independently confirm Hotak or Khan's reports.

U.S. military spokesman Col. Rodney Davis said Saturday that 33 Taliban had been killed in the fighting as of Wednesday, but Afghan officials put the insurgent death toll much higher.

The coalition has 11,500 soldiers hunting down Taliban and al-Qaida fighters, mainly in the south and east of the country.

In all, 35 U.S. servicemembers have been killed in action in Afghanistan, and 162 wounded due to hostilities, the U.S. military said.

Newest Iraqi sport becomes Saddam spotting

The Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq — The Saddam Hussein rumor mill runs swiftly through the northern city of Mosul, through its groves of trees along the Tigris River, through its tea houses, through its tight-knit clans.

Sightings of the ousted dictator, Washington's most-wanted man, have him dressed in an Arab robe, bearded and in sunglasses moving from hideout to hideout. Others, equally dubious, have him sitting on the floor of a humble Bedouin home eating a meager meal with the family.

"This guy's Elvis," Gen. David Petraeus, commander of the 101st Airborne Division, in Northern Iraq.

The search for Saddam is taken particularly seriously in Mosul, where his sons were killed. The ex-dictator enjoys profound support among the largely Sunni population.

Claims of Saddam sightings, most of them absurd, flood a hot line the U.S. Army has set up for tips on Saddam's whereabouts and weapons caches. The enthusiasm is no surprise, as someone could earn \$25 million for his capture.

"We get people that walk up all the time and say 'Hey, give me \$25 million right now and I'll tell you where Saddam is,'" said Petraeus, 50, from Cornwall-on-Hudson, N.Y.

"We generally don't laugh people off. We try to listen. ... Their story breaks down [after] about 30 seconds. Usually it's a friend of a friend of a friend. He might have seen him behind the curtains," Petraeus said.

Arab tradition plays against an easy capture of Saddam in a region where Islam dictates against betraying fugitives.

"But there are cracks in that tradition and there are people that will come forward," Petraeus said.

When Odai and Qusai were caught last month, there were no rumors beforehand of their presence in Mosul.

Nawaf al-Zidani — owner of the house where the brothers were staying and presumed recipient of a \$30 million reward for their capture — went to the Americans, and a young sergeant took him seriously. He "actually sat down and talked with him and realized that potentially it was a real deal and subsequently set up meetings."

One rumor has it that about a month ago, Saddam was in Mosul and was treated by a doctor — Imad Hashim, a well-known neurosurgeon.

"I have never met Saddam, and have only seen him on television," said a frustrated Hashim, head of neurology at the Ibn Sina Teaching Hospital in Mosul.

Many people interviewed in Mosul said if they spotted Saddam they would not spread it around. "If I see him, I will not talk because it will put him in danger," said Waad Ahmed, 40, unemployed, speaking in a poor neighborhood of Mosul.

Another resident said the rumors of Saddam spotting were "soothing to the soul."

"They give me assurances that he may be alive and well," said Saad, who would not give his last name.

Some of the rumors stoke the mythic ideal of Saddam — a cult of personality created by his regime and still thriving in this northern city.

According to one, a hungry and ragged Saddam knocked on the door of a poor Bedouin family in the ancient village of Hadhar and asked for food.

The hosts, unaware who their guest was, ranted about how bad things had become since the U.S. occupation. "Do you wish Saddam were back?" the guest asks the woman. When she said she did, he told her: "I am Saddam. When I leave this house, tell people that Saddam was in my house."

Many changed lives after 9/11

BY SARA KUGLER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — After terrorists killed more than 3,000 people two years ago, Americans dreamed of traveling across the country to rescue survivors, New Yorkers thought of grabbing weapons and going to war, victims' relatives regretted ever wasting a precious day.

Promises to make life count echoed in the emotional days after the attack. Many, certainly, went unfulfilled as the days and months went on. Yet from the fashion designer who founded a non-profit to the Senate aide who joined the Navy, many people did change their lives after Sept. 11, 2001.

The evening of Sept. 11, Lisa Orloff trudged home to her loft in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, discouraged and exhausted after being turned away from the hospital and blood bank where she tried to volunteer. The clothing designer was desperate to help — to do something, anything — but in the chaos, she didn't know where the city needed her.

The next morning, she went to a convention hall where a volunteer command center was forming. After three weeks, Orloff was helping run the operation, organizing food and water for rescue workers, boxing up medical supplies to treat weary ground zero crews.

Eight months later, Orloff sold the inventory from her clothing line and closed her business to head the volunteer organization she founded. The group, September Space, provides a support system for people doing volunteer work.

"I love this city. I was going to do something to help, and something to make a difference," said Orloff, 38. "Once I was doing it 24 hours a day, I realized this was where I need to be."

She gave up her spacious home and moved into a studio apartment, now earning less than a third of what she made as a clothing designer, which she had always thought was her dream job.

"In light of the events that happened, 'things' become so insignificant," she said. "You don't need things. You need people and you want to help them."

Many relatives of the victims have also shifted their lives, turning pain into energy for something new.

Some have founded victims' groups or focused on a cause, like fire codes, immigration laws or the rebuilding of the trade center.

Others, such as Annelise Peterson, made personal changes.

Peterson's brother worked for bond firm Cantor Fitzgerald, on the 104th floor of the World Trade Center's north tower. Her fiancée's office was on the south tower's 104th floor, at Sandler O'Neill, where he so loved his job as an investment banker that he often worked on weekends.

Peterson herself hated her midtown Manhattan banking job — a seemingly plum position she landed after graduating from Columbia in just three years. She had majored in economics because it was marketable, but it was not her passion.

"I didn't really think about what made me happy," Peterson said. "That was always how I'd led my life — what was the best game plan for me."

Stunned by grief after Sept. 11, Peterson returned to work to give herself reason to get out of bed each day. She dreamed of quitting, but stayed for eight more months.

One weekend in May 2002 she was assigned to write a brokers' guide on equities. She went to the office, sat down to work, and wrote her resignation letter instead.

"I was so miserable and I was like, you know what, I have one life to live, and that's what I guess this event

Broad characterizations of how Americans coped are impossible to make

The Associated Press

In the days after the terrorist attacks, even people thousands of miles away seemed suddenly focused on making life more meaningful. Many changed careers, found religion, got married.

But how much did most people's lives really change in the long term? Experts say the answers aren't black-and-white or easy to quantify.

Polls found, for instance, that attendance at religious services spiked after the attacks — but only for a short time. And though there was much speculation about a post-Sept. 11 baby boom, recently compiled figures showed that the national birth rate actually fell in 2002, when compared with 2001, furthering a downturn that began in the early 1990s.

In the end, finding evidence of a baby boom is "kind of an iffy proposition," says Brady Hamilton, a demographer for the National Center for Health Statistics, which released the birth data. "You could have just as many people decide to postpone having children as those who decide to have children."

It's not necessarily the phoenix-from-the-ashes story many people were looking for in a time when good news was scarce. But it's not surprising to experts who track the

way people respond to painful events.

"We can't assume that a tragedy is going to have the same effect on all of us," says Lawrence Calhoun, a clinical psychologist and professor at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Calhoun has co-authored several books, including "Trauma and Transformation: Growing in the Aftermath of Suffering."

Sometimes, he says, people are able to move on and even grow because of tragedy — but others struggle. And some make post-trauma plans that eventually fall by the wayside like a New Year's resolution.

"Generally, if the event has had enough impact for a person to make a big change, it will stick. But it depends," says Melissa Calhoun Pankowski, a life and transition coach and certified grief counselor in Marin County, Calif.

Often, she says, it's a matter of how well her clients were doing before tragedy hit — and how rashly the decision was made.

"Say people were together as boyfriend and girlfriend for a while and hadn't made an official commitment. After 9/11, they might've said, 'Let's make it real,'" Pankowski says. "That could work."

"But where someone all of the sudden said, 'I want to find somebody.' Will that stick? That's debatable."

"I was angry. There was a large element of 'I want to go get these guys, you don't do this to my home.'"

Peter Kauffmann

Joined the Navy after attacks

taught me, is that you have to take those risks," Peterson said. "You just have to go with your passion, what's in your heart."

Less than a year later, Peterson started her own public relations company. It launched in her apartment but has grown to occupy a new SoHo office, where she brings her Yorkie dog to work and doesn't have to wear a suit.

Peterson, 24, looks at life now as though she's also living for her brother, Davin Peterson, and her fiancée, Fred Cox, who did not get the chance. Both young men enjoyed their careers, and she doesn't want to waste any time.

"I love it and I'm happy and I'm very proud of myself, and I think that they would be proud of me too," she said. "I think that's a big thing with whatever you do — you're always thinking about how they would feel if they were still here."

Leanne Shay wonders the same about her brother, Robert. Growing up in Staten Island, she was fiercely protective of him, being his older sister by 19 months. They were two of eight Shay children, and they stuck together.

Robert Shay worked at Cantor Fitzgerald, a job Leanne helped him get because she had worked there. Since he died, she has battled the guilt of not being able to protect him.

She went back to school a year after the attacks, majoring in criminal justice with a goal of working in counterterrorism for the FBI, CIA or New York Police Department.

"I kind of feel like I failed him, and that's hard to carry around," she said. "I try to make up for it by going back to

school and maybe one day help save somebody else's brother."

The 30-year-old single mom works full-time as a client associate at Merrill Lynch, and attends school at night and on weekends. She made the decision to change her career about six months after her brother was killed.

"I have to do something that helps other people," she remembers thinking. "I can't sit behind a computer looking at the stock market all day long."

Until she finishes school, Shay asked to work out of the company's downtown office so she could be close to the trade center site.

It was in that same neighborhood that Peter Kauffmann once spent his carefree days as a student at nearby Stuyvesant High School.

The native New Yorker, now 27, returned to lower Manhattan in the days after the attacks, accompanying his boss, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Kauffmann, her press secretary, had been toying with the idea of going into the Navy, but during one of Clinton's visits to ground zero on Sept. 14, he knew he had to go.

"I remember looking up — you knew where the towers were supposed to be — and looking back down and that was when I made the personal decision that I wanted to join the military," Kauffmann said. "It was the way I dealt with all the emotions I think every New Yorker was feeling at the time."

"I was angry," he added. "There was a large element of 'I want to go get these guys, you don't do this to my home.'"

A week later, he applied, and began officer candidate school the following May. Kauffmann graduated from intelligence school this spring, and is now stationed at Fallon Naval Air Station in Nevada, working on a project developing uses for unmanned aerial vehicles.

"There are times when I think about just how different joining the military is, but it's something I'm so proud of and I'm very happy I did it," Kauffmann said. "I'm proud of the work I did before, but I thought this was more appropriate for me right now."

Ships wait out watch

HONOLULU — A weakening Hurricane Jimena plowed across the ocean on a path taking it just south of the Big Island of Hawaii on Monday, threatening the coast with high surf and torrential rain and delaying the deployment of warships from Pearl Harbor.

The Central Pacific Hurricane Center posted a hurricane watch for Hawaii, the state's biggest and southernmost island, and a high surf warning was issued for the southern coast of Maui.

Hawaii County Civil Defense closed beaches at Puna and Kau and said beachfront residents of the Big Island should be prepared to evacuate.

Surf was running 8 to 12 feet high, with 15-foot waves possible.

The center of the hurricane was expected to pass about 50 miles offshore from South Point, the southern tip of the state, the hurricane center said.

Because of the storm, the Navy delayed Monday's scheduled departure of Expeditionary Strike Group One from Pearl Harbor. Five San Diego-based ships and the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile cruiser USS Port Royal along with the attack submarine USS Greenville will leave Tuesday on deployment to the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Middle East, Lt. Cmdr. Jane Campbell said.

Rumsfeld visit reported

SEOUL, South Korea — Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld will visit Seoul next month for talks on North Korea's nuclear weapons program and the planned redeployment of American troops in South Korea, Seoul officials said Sunday, according to the Yonhap news agency.

Rumsfeld will take part in the Security Consultative Meeting, annual high-level security talks between the two nations, scheduled for late September in Seoul, an anonymous official of the South Korean defense ministry told the agency.

New anthrax vaccine tested

Harvard Medical School researchers have created a vaccine that delivers a double knockout against anthrax and the deadly toxins that the bacterium throws off.

The new vaccine prompts the immune system to attack both the anthrax bacterium and the toxins it makes that often prove lethal to lung tissue and vital organs. This dual action, tested on mice, could offer a considerable improvement over the existing anthrax vaccine that targets only the toxins. But it still needs to be tested on large animals and humans.

In tests conducted at both Harvard and Brigham and Women's Hospital, in Boston, half the mice in the study group were injected first with the vaccine.

Then 10 days later all were injected with anthrax toxin. All the vaccinated mice survived the toxic challenge, while unvaccinated mice died within 24 hours.

"It worked like a charm," said Julia Wang, an assistant professor who led the study published online Monday by The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. "This vaccine is likely to be much more effective at protecting against systemic anthrax because it targets both virulence factors — the toxin and the capsule that protects the bacterium from attack by the immune system."

The researchers also suggest that the new vaccine could be an important tool for treating people already infected with anthrax, along with other therapies such as antibiotics. Research done in the wake of the 2001 mail anthrax attacks show that it is important to raise levels of antibacterial antibodies in individuals to combat bacteria that may multiply in victims long after antibiotics have been stopped.

Wang said the next step is to test the vaccine in animals infected with actual anthrax spores rather than just the genetically engineered toxin, to actually replicate the natural disease process.

From wire and staff reports

Jesse Jackson arrested at protest

BY MATT APUZZO

The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — The Rev. Jesse Jackson and 13 people were arrested Monday after they blocked traffic on the Yale University campus in support of striking university service and clerical workers.

Jackson led more than 1,000 people on a Labor Day march and rally in support of the striking workers before he was arrested.

"This is the site of national Labor Day outrage," Jackson said. "This is going to be for economic justice what Selma was for the right to vote."

The march began shortly after 9 a.m. and ended in a rally at Yale's Beinecke

Plaza and Woodbridge Hall, which houses university President Richard Levin's office. Police said between 1,000 to 1,500 people marched with Jackson, including Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz, who graduated from Yale, and state Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, a Yale Law School graduate.

Jackson and about 30 others then blocked traffic. To the cheers of protesters, Jackson was the first to be handcuffed at about 11:30 a.m. and led onto a bus to be processed at police headquarters.

The protesters were expected to be charged with disorderly conduct.

At Yale, the service and clerical workers from Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International walked

off the job Wednesday in a dispute over wages, job security and pension benefits.

In Detroit, union members and supporters faced rainy weather to march downtown to celebrate Labor Day and call attention to the challenges faced by American workers in a struggling economy.

The parade ended at the recently unveiled Michigan Labor Legacy monument, a 63-foot tall circular gear in Hart Plaza symbolizing the continuing spirit of organized labor and the importance of unions to the region's history.

"We're very concerned about this economy," said Patrick Devlin, secretary-treasurer of the Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council. "People talk about the economy picking up, but we don't see it."

Study: U.S. workers most productive

BY ALEXANDER G. HIGGINS

The Associated Press

GENEVA — U.S. workers are the world's most productive, but they put in more hours than Europeans to score higher, according to a study released Monday by the United Nations labor agency.

Workers in France, Belgium and Norway beat the Americans in productivity per hour, said the International Labor Organization in its new issue of Key Indicators of the Labor Market.

Output per person employed in the United States last year was \$60,728, the report said. Belgium, the highest-scoring European Union member, had \$54,333.

"Part of the difference in output per worker was due to the fact that Americans worked longer hours than their European counterparts," the ILO said. "U.S. workers put in an average of 1,825 hours in 2002."

Japanese worked about the same number of hours as Americans, but in major European economies the average ranged from 1,300 to 1,800 hours, it said.

"In terms of output per person employed, the U.S. is on top," said Dorothea Schmidt, an economist on the team that produced the 855-page report.

"In terms of output per hour we have three European countries doing better than the U.S. — that's Belgium, Norway and France — and they have done so ever since the mid-'80s," Schmidt said.

Norwegians lead the league, with an output of \$38 per hour worked last year.

French workers were in second place, with an average of \$35 an hour, the report said. Belgians were third at \$34. U.S. workers were in fourth place at \$32 per hour worked.

Schmidt said it wasn't clear why the three countries outscored the United States.

"There are many, many reasons," she said. "One might be that during the time that these people work, they work more efficiently."

It might be that the technology they use enables them to be more efficient in this one hour."

The differences were not that great, she said. "It's not that they do twice the work that a U.S. worker does. It's the small things. If you work 15 hours a day, of course there are hours when you are not as productive as if you only work six hours a day."

But working less is not necessarily the key, as is shown by most other European Union countries that trail the United States, she said. It also depends on such factors as motivation, skills and training.

The report found that in most coun-

tries the number of hours worked had been going down over the past three years in conjunction with the decline in the world economy.

The ILO said U.S. productivity has been growing twice as fast as that in Europe and Japan over the past seven years.

The report said the high overall U.S. productivity resulted in part from two factors.

The first is that the U.S. economy provides an environment for widespread use of information and communications technology. The second is that it has had more growth of wholesale and retail trade and financial securities using the technology.

Schmidt said that the report also looked at productivity in agriculture, where technology proved to be a huge advantage. For example, she said, an agricultural worker in the United States produces 650 times more than the worker in Vietnam.

But she said the report, which was based on government-supplied figures and other data, shouldn't be taken to mean that workers in developing countries were lazy or inefficient.

"If you are talking about developing countries, it's not fair to say that these people are not efficient," she told reporters. "They are working hard. They are probably working harder than other people. It's just because they do not have the technology that they cannot perform that well."

Carbonated milk takes aim at colas

The Associated Press

MILFORD, N.Y. — Adding bubbles to milk is tricky. Pump in too many, and it foams over. Add too few and why bother.

George and Mary Ann Clark, husband-and-wife entrepreneurs, have spent the past seven years trying to find the balance. Last week, they started production on a carbonated milk-based drink called Refreshing Power Milk — RPM — and they already have orders coming in from school districts.

Mary Ann Clark, a registered nurse, said she was pained to see children drinking cola and shunning milk when she worked in schools, so she decided to do something about it.

"If you take water and add carbon dioxide to make soda, why can't you do that with milk?" she asked.

She and her biochemist husband started work on a carbonated milk drink in 1996 and founded Mac Farms Inc. in 1998. The company already sells eMoo, another carbonated milk drink. On Wednesday, in a factory with a barn-red roof and a purple-and-yellow cow out front, the first batch of RPM was bottled.

The Clarks combined water and pow-

dered milk to create slightly fizzy, mildly milky-tasting drink with the nutritional value of skim milk and 40 percent of the recommended daily amount of calcium.

Each 12-ounce serving contains 90 calories and 12 grams of sugar, compared to 150 calories and 40 grams of sugar in a 12-ounce can of Coca-Cola. RPM contains 9 grams of protein compared to none in a can of Coca-Cola, but is higher in sodium: 115 grams to 52 grams per 12-ounce serving.

The flavors: vanilla cappuccino, Brazilian chocolate and chocolate raspberry.

Researchers at Cornell University had been looking for ways to extend the shelf life of dairy products using carbonation when their researchers teamed up with the Clarks several years ago.

Joe Hotchkiss, chairman of the Department of Food Science at Cornell University, said the drink was designed to attract people who like soda.

"People consume food based on their sensory properties, taste, what kind of emotional feelings it gives them," said Hotchkiss.

"Our role is to provide that similar kind of satisfaction in foods, but also couple that to foods that are more nutritionally sound."

Soldier wants sluggers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — A U.S. soldier stationed in Qatar wanted to bring his national pastime to the Middle East, so he decided to ask the makers of the Louisville Slugger bat for help.

1st Lt. Derek Root sent an e-mail message from Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar to the Louisville Slugger Museum to request baseball equipment for his comrades.

"We would love to have a few wood bats shipped here to boost our troops' morale in time for the playoffs," Root, with the Air Force's 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, wrote the museum. "Could you help us bring a slice of Americana to the Persian Gulf region?"

Hillerich and Bradsby Co., makers of the world-renowned bats, happily obliged.

A shipment of dozens of baseball bats, balls, batting and fielding gloves, and sunglasses is being sent to Qatar and two bases in Iraq, said Rick Redman, Hillerich and Bradsby's vice president of corporate communications.

"The bottom line is we have troops there, and we need to support them no matter what individual opinions may be," Redman said last week.

From The Associated Press

Unemployed announcer finds price of radio show high

BUFFALO, N.Y. — John Bothe was unemployed with time to spare so he paid a radio station about \$1,000 for some air time for a Saturday sports show.

Now he's finding the price of that show may be much higher.

The state Labor Department determined Bothe's unpaid radio gig qualified as work — and disqualified him from receiving unemployment benefits.

Not only has the state put a halt on future benefits, it wants Bothe to return \$605 he already collected.

"My definition of work is doing a job and getting paid for it, not paying them," said Bothe, who lives in Genesee County's Corfu.

Bothe lost his first appeal of the Labor Department's determination. He'll make his case again at an administrative hearing Sept. 8.

A Labor Department spokesman Robert Lillpopp said he could not comment on specific cases but that being available to work is important when collecting benefits.

"In order to get [benefits] you have to be ready, willing and available to work," he said.

Bothe said he was only trying to improve his chances of staying off unemployment in the future.

After learning of Bothe's "work," the Labor Department sent him a notice informing him he had been overpaid \$605.50 between April and July because "you falsely certified that you did not work when in fact you knew that you had worked."

As penalty, the department said Bothe will lose 104 days of future benefits.

Bothe explained to the department he had not been paid for the work but was told he had not read the state handbook outlining conditions for receiving benefits.

The handbook states that a person receiving benefits must report "any activity that brings in or may bring in income at any time."

"You are considered employed on any day when you perform any services — even an hour or less in self-employment, on a freelance basis or for someone else," the handbook says. "It makes no difference whether this work is in covered employment or whether you get paid for that day."

Witness statements differ regarding doctor's death

HOUSTON — Witnesses gave police differing accounts of the final moments of the life of Dr. Hitoshi Nikaidoh, whose head was severed just above his lower jaw after he became lodged in an elevator's doors two weeks ago.

Dr. Canaan L. Harris, who was outside the elevator, told police Nikaidoh extended his arms "apparently to try and hold the doors open" and put his leg up to enter the moving elevator at Christus St. Joseph Hospital. Physician's assistant Karin Steinau, who was inside, said Nikaidoh became trapped as he entered the elevator and the doors closed on him.

Attorney Howard Nations, representing Nikaidoh's family in a lawsuit against the elevator's manufacturer and maintenance company, disputed Harris' recollection of the 35-year-old surgical resident's actions on Aug. 16.

"There is no indication of bruising on his leg," Nations said Sunday. "How do you get from the leg being inside a rising elevator to the head being trapped inside a moving elevator? It defies logic and it defies the physical facts."

Nations suggested that Nikaidoh simply outstretched his arms in relief that the elevator was operating after being out of service for a few days.

"I was told by a nurse ... that as Dr. Nikaidoh approached the elevator, he put his arms up and said, 'Ahh, it is working today,'" Nations said. "His arms were not extended to try and stop the elevator from moving."

Nikaidoh died from multiple blunt force injuries to his head and body, the Harris County Medical Examiner's office ruled.

Steinau also was in the elevator. She was treated in the hospital's emergency room.

A day later, she recounted for police that the elevator had been closed for a couple of days but no longer had an "out of service" sign on it when she summoned it to go to the sixth floor.

She said when the elevator arrived, she got on and pushed the button for the sixth floor. As Steinau turned around, she saw Nikaidoh approaching and said he became trapped by the doors as he stepped inside.

"She immediately began to try and find the emergency stop button on the elevator but was unable to do so before the elevator had partially decapitated the (doctor)," the police report states.

"Witness states that the elevator continued upward before it stopped between floors."

Steinau was trapped for more than an hour.

Schumer blames Saudis for rising local gas prices

NEW YORK — Senator Charles Schumer held Saudi Arabia responsible for rising gas prices in the metropolitan region, accusing Saudis of curtailing its oil exports to the United States.

During a news conference in Manhattan on Sunday, the senator said that in August, oil imports from Saudi Arabia have fallen by 25 percent, or 500,000 barrels a day. He challenged the Bush administration to "stand up to the Saudis" and tap the domestic petroleum reserves to reduce gasoline costs.

"Prices are up 21 percent in New York City and 24 percent on Long Island compared to last year," Schumer said. "Something else is at work here, and I think the Saudis know it."

He said as of Thursday, average gas prices in the city went to \$1.93, up by more than 26 cents from a month ago and more than .33 cents higher than a year ago.

Schumer accused the Saudis of boasting of its allegiance with the United States in the war on terror, but not cooperating when it comes to supplying oil.

"The Saudis say they are our partners, but they cut back supply when we need it most," he said.

Charges dropped against teen

NORMAN, Okla. — A felony charge has been dismissed against a 19-year-old accused of writing a plan for a shooting at his former high school.

Cleveland County District Judge William Hetherington ruled Friday that there was no evidence of malicious intent by Brian Derrick Robertson of Moore.

Robertson was charged with one count of planning to cause serious bodily harm or death after a school shooting scenario was found on the computer he used at Moore High School.

He was the first person charged under a state statute passed by the Legislature after a number of school shootings around the country.

Robertson's attorney, Sara McFall, and the Oklahoma chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union argued the statute was unconstitutional because charging a teenager for something he wrote violates his First Amendment rights.

The judge said he found the statute constitutional, but only if malicious intent was proved.

Robertson says he found the beginning of a plan already on his school computer and expanded on it. He told officials he never planned to do violence but that the plan was simply a piece of writing.

"It was pure fiction," McFall said.

From wire reports

Old Army booklet shows French bashing is nothing new

BY JAMEY KEATEN

The Associated Press

PARIS — They don't bathe. Their women are loose. In war they're quick to surrender and have to be rescued by Americans.

These and other choice stereotypes about the French have been flying about since their government defied the American line on Iraq. Now a hot-selling booklet is showing that there's nothing new about it.

Written nearly 60 years ago, "112 Gripes about the French" was a U.S. Army publication intended as a prejudice-busting primer for the American troops occupying France after World War II.

Revived under the charitably translated title "Nos Amis, Les Français," ("Our Friends, the French"), the booklet has become a hit in France.

As a history lesson, the book shows that once the euphoria of liberation from Hitler's army wore off, it wasn't all chocolates, chewing gum and kisses that were being exchanged between the French and the GIs.

In question-and-answer format, it lists 112 impressions among the GIs about the French that its author debunks, explains or, in rare cases, confirms.

If the French seem unwashed (criticism No. 45), it's because the Germans hogged the soap, the book explains.

Gripe 56: French women are "immoral." Explanation: "The immoral French women are, of course, the easiest women for us to meet. That's why we meet so many of them."

Much of the book praises the French.

Answering Gripe 6: "Did they ever do anything for us?" — the book says 45,000 French volunteers fought for American independence. "It was France that came to our aid at our darkest hour," the book says.

Common sense is the main theme. "You don't have to love the French," the book reasons after comment 5. "But you don't have to hate them either. You might try to understand them."

Balbino Katz, the editor of a French history magazine, ran across the booklet at an attic sale two years ago. He bought it, translated excerpts and published them in his magazine, which drew the attention of book publisher Le Cherche Midi, he said.

"We're noticing today, with a bit of sadness, that Americans' prejudices about the French are the same today as they were back in '45," Katz said by telephone. He insisted he isn't anti-American and said Americans are wrong to think France is ungrateful for their sacrifices during the war.

Le Cherche Midi, in a prepublication statement, said: "It seemed important to us to reissue the veritable and true jewel that this practical manual is, distributed to GIs in France to answer all their questions about these strange 'Frenchies.'"

More than 14,000 copies have been sold since it hit French bookstore shelves in June, according to Le Cherche Midi, and it made L'Express magazine's best-seller list for two weeks last month.

Frank Shirer, an archivist with the U.S. Army's Center for Military History in Washington, said the book, as a U.S. government publication, is not protected by any copyright laws. It was unclear how many copies were printed or how it was distributed, he said. It also wasn't clear exactly when it was published — 1945 or 1946. The author's identity is unknown.

The quarreling over Iraq, declining U.S. tourism to France and calls for an American boycott of French products have alarmed many in this country and provoked some soul-searching.

"The accusations of many Americans against the French hit a sensitive nerve," Katz said. "Accusing us of cowardice, collaboration or lack of gratitude — it all has a grain of truth."

The book, he said, "soothes the French to think that some Americans can come to their defense."

Maybe Americans stand to learn something from the book, he added.

"The French government should republish it in English and give it as a gift to every American who comes to France," Katz said with a chuckle.

Polish woman drowns trying to reach United States

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico — A Polish woman who tried to enter the United States through Mexico drowned while trying to cross the Rio Grande into Texas, officials said Monday.

Agnieszka Kaminska, 28, of Jarocin, Poland, was swept away by the current Sunday as she and her husband Adam Jadowski, 31, tried to swim across, according to police. Kaminska and Jadowski, of Konin, Poland, apparently entered Mexico legally on Aug. 27. The man told police he and his wife had paid \$200 each for help in crossing to the United States. Police said the smuggler fled when he saw Kaminska pulled away by the current.

School-funded shopaholic jailed

LONDON — A headmistress who stole school funds to pay for her lavish lifestyle of designer jewelry, theater trips and expensive vacations was sentenced to five years in jail Monday.

Colleen McCabe, a 50-year-old former nun, was convicted last month of deception and theft from the publicly funded St. John Rigby College in south London.

McCabe frittered away \$800,000 of the Roman Catholic school's money over five years, leaving it short of cleaners and sporting a library full of empty shelves. Her purchases included a \$11,000 shoe collection.

Power outages darken Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Simultaneous power outages Monday blacked out large parts of peninsular Malaysia for several hours, officials said.

The main outage began around 10 a.m. in five states in peninsular Malaysia, said Pian Sukro, chief executive officer of Tenaga Nasional, Malaysia's main power utility company. Officials ruled out sabotage as the cause, but were investigating an unexplained glitch, Pian told a news conference.

From The Associated Press

Strike kills militant

26 wounded when Israeli copters target car

BY IBRAHIM BARZAK

The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israeli helicopters fired four missiles at a car carrying Hamas militants Monday, killing at least one of them and wounding 26 people on a crowded Gaza City street in the sixth such attack in two weeks.

Three men were in the car, witnesses said, and at least one got away.

Israel has been waging war on Hamas in retaliation for a deadly suicide bombing that killed 21 people on a Jerusalem bus Aug. 19.

With Monday's attack, 14 Palestinians, including at least 10 Hamas members, have been killed in missile strikes.

The missiles hit the small car as it moved along a crowded side street in downtown Gaza City.

Salman Abu Nour, 42, said he was working in his printshop when the missiles hit. "I rushed outside, and saw a car like a ball of fire. I brought my fire extinguisher and helped people to fight the fire," he said.

The man killed was identified as Khader Houssein, a 36-year-old Hamas member, said hospital spokesman Gomma Saka.

The missile strike came as army chief Lt. Gen. Moshe Yaalon was quoted as telling Cabinet that Israel is prepared to send an infantry brigade into the Gaza Strip to stop Hamas rocket fire.

Troops also critically wounded a 15-year-old Palestinian in a clash with stone-throwing youngsters Monday, as more than 1 million Palestinian students in the West Bank and Gaza returned to classes.

The Israeli military eased restrictions in some of the reoccupied West Bank towns to allow Palestinians to get to school.

In the city of Nablus, hundreds of students threw stones at tanks and jeeps in several locations. Troops fired tear gas, rubber bullets and live rounds to disperse the crowds, witnesses said.

A Palestinian threw a firebomb at a tank near the main square, where about 70 stone-throwers were assembled. The top of the tank caught fire, said Palestinian rescue worker Ala Aratrut, who saw the incident. "A soldier from inside the tank began shooting randomly. The top of the tank was going round while the shooting went on," said Aratrut, a witness.

A teenager fell to the ground after being shot in the head, the rescue worker said. Doctors said the boy, age 15, was in critical condition.

The Israeli military had no immediate comment. Israel's Cabinet convened Monday, and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon told ministers that there will be no letup in the campaign against Hamas and other militant groups.

"We are continuing our operations against Hamas and other terror groups to prevent them from harming Israel's citizens," he said.

Yaalon was quoted by various Israeli media as telling the Cabinet that he is prepared to send an infantry brigade into Gaza, if necessary, to stop Hamas rocket fire. A brigade would consist of about 3,000 soldiers, including fighters and support personnel.

In the past three years of fighting, Israel has carried out several ground offensives in Gaza but has shied away from reoccupying large areas of the densely populated coastal strip, focusing instead on air strikes. However, Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz said Sunday he was ready to order a ground offensive if rocket fire does not cease.

In the past two years, Hamas has fired dozens of rockets at Israeli settlements in Gaza and border towns in Israel, causing minor damage and injuries. However, Israel considers the rockets a strategic threat.

Border killings may be heading south

BY MARK STEVENSON

The Associated Press

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico — A nightmare of killings has haunted northern Mexico's young women for a decade, and families of victims and suspects alike are so frustrated over what they see as inept investigations that they've joined in an unusual alliance to criticize police.

And now, people fear the murders that started in 1993 in the border city of Juarez, across from El Paso, have spread to the state capital. Sixteen young women have disappeared in Chihuahua since 2000, seven of them turning up dead in circumstances eerily similar to the killings in Juarez, which is 200 miles to the north.

"This was just something that happened in Juarez, something we heard about on the radio, until girls started disappearing here," said Norma Ledesma.

Ledesma's daughter Paloma, 16, disappeared in March 2002, and her body was later found on the side of a highway.

Then, early this year, five young Chihuahua women vanished within weeks of one another. Children found the decomposed body of one in a vacant lot in May, and another's remains were found near a road in July.

The seven who have been found dead were slim, pretty, dark-haired and between the ages of 14 and 20 — the same characteristics as most of the more than 90 victims in Juarez. The bodies were also found in the desert or vacant lots, and some had been strangled in attacks so fierce their neck vertebrae were crushed — also like the victims in Juarez.

Mothers of victims in both cities accuse police of not doing enough.

"What are they waiting for, for this to spread to other cities and states?" said Hilda Medrano, whose daughter Diana, 18, disappeared May 27.

The young woman vanished after boarding a bus heading home from school. Many of the Juarez victims also were last seen on public buses.

State officials say such murders occur everywhere in the world, but they also acknowledge the killings may be part of a trend.

"This is a complex problem with deep social roots, closely linked to crime, drugs, economic problems, the breakdown of the family and society, frustration, resentment and the loss of values," the state government said in a news release.

Suspects have been charged in many of the cases, but in both Juarez and Chihuahua there are allegations that police have engaged in evidence tampering, torture, forced confessions and sloppy forensic work. That has led almost everyone — including relatives of victims and suspects — to question whether police have caught the real culprits. Some people even think police may be covering up for the killers.

At a recent private meeting in Juarez with representatives of the London-based human rights group Amnesty International, family members who lost a daughter or sister sat in the same room with relatives of those jailed in the killings. Both groups criticized police.

"In my experience, I have never seen the families of both victims and of the accused come together around the same table to express their concern about the criminal justice system," said Irene Khan, secretary-general of Amnesty International. "That just shows how bad the whole situation is."

Ledesma disdains police allegations that her daughter Paloma was murdered by a former boyfriend. She held a similar meeting at her home in Chihuahua to condemn police and demand better investigations.

Ledesma said the family had caught a police commander trying to plant the ex-boyfriend's photograph at the crime scene.

"Thanks to the impunity and corruption of the police, none of the culprits are in jail," she said. "The people they have in jail are innocent."

Also at the meeting was Carol Kiecker, mother of murder suspect Cynthia Kiecker, a native of Bloomington, Minn. Police allege Cynthia killed 16-year-old Viviana Rayas, whose body was found May 28. Almost nobody here believes it, and both Carol Kiecker and Viviana's father have condemned the police's handling of the case.

"I can't absolutely assure you that they are innocent," Jose Cerilo Rayas said of suspects. "But I feel they are sincere in what they say."

Sitting in another corner of the room, Patricia Cervantes said she did not believe police allegations that her step-nephew, David Meza, was responsible for the murder of her daughter Neyra, 19.

"He is absolutely innocent," she said. "There is no way he was involved."

Chihuahua state officials say they have done their best to solve the crimes, but may not have done enough reach out to families.

"There has been a lack of communication and a loss of credibility in law enforcement," said Dr. Alfredo Rodriguez Garcia, a forensic adviser to prosecutors. "This isn't a problem that exists only in Chihuahua, but in the entire country and Latin America."

Japan scandal reveals sex-crime attitudes

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI

The Associated Press

TOKYO — The rave parties promoted by a college social club calling itself "Super Free" were always packed with hundreds of young women, and the beach trips always booked solid.

To reel in the women, college student and Super Free leader Shinichiro Wada promised them the opportunity to meet pedigreed young men at Waseda University, the elite school he attended.

The highbrow mixing finally crashed to an end this summer, however, amid accusations of lurid games, drunken free-for-alls and ruthless gang rapes by male members who turned the college-backed club into a hotbed of systematic sexual assault.

Women alleged to police that Wada and his cohorts would orchestrate boozing games, then cull the most inebriated girls and quietly whisk them away to karaoke rooms, bathrooms or stairwells to be gang-raped.

When 28-year-old Wada and five other organizers were arrested on rape charges in June, public outrage underlined how attitudes about sex crimes are changing in a society where victims traditionally suffered in silence.

But the affair also shows how much hasn't changed. It has triggered a boys-will-be-boys backlash that activists say only spotlights how ingrained sexist sentiment remains.

"To some men, rape is still a fantasy, rather than a crime," said Tamie Kaino, a professor at Tokyo's Ochanomizu University and an expert on campus sex crimes.

Sex crimes in Japan have surged in recent years, with rape cases jumping 40 percent to 2,228 in 2001, from around 1,600 four years earlier, according to the National Police Agency. Offenses such as groping and obscenity tripled to 9,326 cases in 2001 from a decade ago.

The increase is due at least in part to a greater inclination by women to report attacks to police. Since the Super Free scandal broke, more of its alleged victims have come forward.

But most assaulted women in Japan still stay silent, said Shochi Kodama, a National Police Agency investigator. Often, they are accused of having invited trouble, especially in the summer when women wear light clothes. And rapists sometimes photograph the assault, threatening to release the prints if the victims seek help.

Media reports also blame the victim. Many of the

women attending the Super Free parties were depicted as rural bumpkins of about 20 or a bit younger looking for city boys at brand-name universities. Some commentators said they were simply out of their league and lost control during the drinking games.

During a Parliament debate, lawmaker Seiichi Ota, a 57-year-old former Cabinet minister, got a laugh when he quipped: "At least gang rapists are still vigorous. Isn't that at least a little closer to normal?"

A few days later, a weekly magazine said Yasuo Fukuda, the Cabinet's chief spokesman, told reporters at an off-the-record briefing that women were partly to blame in the case of gang rape.

"The problem is that there are lots of women dressed provocatively," he was quoted as saying. Fukuda, who is also the minister of gender equality, said his comment was taken out of context. "I meant something completely different," he said, but didn't elaborate.

Yoko Yoshida, a staff member at the Tokyo Rape Crisis Center, said the wink-and-nudge attitude is grounded in a popular culture that often depicts rape as an act of passion, not violence, and that women who resist don't really mean it.

Myths are perpetuated by an underground pop culture in which rape is a common genre.

Rape-themed videos account for about a fifth of the pornography offerings at chain rental stores, with titles like "Idol Rape Crime File" ranking among the top five in weekly X-rated sales.

Popular comic books and video games often depict rape fantasies where teenage girls, nurses and housewives willingly submit to rapes and other sex assaults from relatives, neighbors or even police. A 17-year-old high school student arrested in June for allegedly raping 31 women reportedly told police he was trying to re-enact scenes he saw in porno books and magazines.

"I'm afraid some men think rape is forgivable," Yoshida said. "When something happens, women — the victims — take the blame."

Still, Yoshida said things are slowly changing. Police now show more sensitivity to rape victims, and Yoshida thinks the Super Free affair may accelerate the change.

"The case got a lot of attention, and I hope this will raise awareness even more," she said.

Tokyo's staid Waseda University is already reacting. It has since dissolved Super Free and before the summer break issued a warning to students: "All sex without consent is considered rape, and it's a serious crime. Don't be fooled by stereotypical rape scenes in dramas, comic books and videos!"

Federer tops American Blake

BY JANIE MCCAULEY

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Federer's fan club barely stretched beyond the man wearing a red Swiss flag T-shirt and dangling the country's flag over the rail of the middle deck.

Even with the minimal fanfare, the reigning Wimbledon champion still foiled things for the local favorite.

It took Federer 2 hours, 1 minute to beat ever-popular American James Blake 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3 on Sunday night to reach the U.S. Open's round of 16 for the second straight year. Federer, playing his first match under the lights of Arthur Ashe Stadium, was one set up after just 23 minutes and exhibited

both poise and an amazing array of shotmaking.

"I always felt in control of the second set," Federer said. "They were cheering him on, which is normal.... Obviously, when you get into a tiebreaker you never quite know, but I felt good going into the breaker."

And one by one, America's young guns are going down. First there was Mardy Fish, then Robby Ginepri, and now Blake. No. 4 Andy Roddick and Taylor Dent both remain in a men's field that also includes their aging countrymen: world No. 1 Andre Agassi and Todd Martin.

Agassi advanced after waiting 24 hours to complete his third-round match against Yevgeny Kafelnikov. Agassi again was held up by rain on Monday as the start of play was delayed 2 hours, 44 minutes by rain.

On Sunday, Roddick smacked a 140-mph ace in a 6-1, 6-3, 6-3 victory over Flavio Saretta, allowing just five points in his first 12 service games. The No. 4-seeded Roddick will play Xavier Malisse, a 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 (8) winner over Dmitry Tursunov.

For the first time since 1981, the top eight seeds in the men's draw have advanced to the round of 16.

The second-seeded Federer is trying to become the first man since Pete Sampras in 1995 to win Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in the same year.

Federer remained steady through a stressful second set that both players will certainly remember for a while.

One game lasted 13 minutes and featured eight break points and 10 deuces before Blake finally held serve. Another of Blake's service games had six deuces, and he also won that one.

Federer had a total of 20 break points in the set but converted just one — when Blake dropped behind 3-2 with consecutive double-faults. Blake drew even at 5-5 by breaking back when Federer missed two straight forehands, but Federer remained calm through the tiebreaker.

"His demeanor is also one of the best on the court," Blake said. "He seems very emotionless until it gets to the end of the match, and then he lets it all out, as you saw at Wimbledon."

The only past champion in the women's field, third-seeded Lindsay Davenport, advanced to the quarterfinals by defeating No. 19 Nadia Petrova 6-0, 6-7 (6), 6-2. Davenport will play No. 24 Paola Suarez, who got past Elena Likhovtseva 6-2, 3-6, 7-5.

BASEBALL

PHOENIX — Barry Bonds, drained by the emotions that followed his father's death, was hospitalized for exhaustion as a precaution Sunday night.

The Giants removed Bonds from the lineup five minutes before the start of the game against the Diamondbacks.

The day before, Bonds came out of his first game since his father's death because of an accelerated heart rate — up to 160 beats per minute.

Giants trainer Stan Conte said Bonds'

Sports in brief

resting heartbeat was down to 65 Sunday, but he showed other signs of being overwrought after his father's death.

Bobby Bonds died Aug. 23 at age 57. Barry Bonds missed the next six games.

MIAMI — The Florida Marlins acquired Jeff Conine from the Baltimore Orioles late Sunday night, just ahead of

the midnight deadline for setting post-season rosters.

The Orioles sent Conine to the Marlins for minor league right-handers Denny Bautista and Don Levinski.

BASKETBALL

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — The United States won the gold medal at the Tour-

namment of the Americas, beating Argentina 106-73.

The Americans finished the tournament 10-0 and qualified for the 2004 Olympics in Athens, along with Argentina and Puerto Rico, which defeated Canada 79-66 in the third-place game.

AUTO RACING

DARLINGTON, S.C. — Terry Labonte won the Southern 500 on Sunday, ending a 156-race winless streak.

Continued on Page 9

Japanese spy satellites

TOKYO — Japan's space agency on Sunday began final rehearsals for the launch of its second pair of spy satellites next month, according to a news report.

Japan successfully launched its first spy satellites on March 28 as part of a \$2 billion plan to monitor North Korea's missile and nuclear programs. The launch triggered an angry warning from the communist nation, which accused Japan of escalating a regional arms race.

The rocket, with two satellites aboard, is now scheduled for launch on Sept. 22 instead of Sept. 10 due to additional work that must be completed, which Japanese media said involved the rocket's booster.

Concert ends in rioting

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A free rock concert meant to promote social harmony ended abruptly with rioting and warning shots from police, reports said Sunday. At least six people were reportedly injured.

Veteran rocker Iwan Fals, whose songs were banned by former dictator Suharto, tried to calm the 100,000-strong crowd with a nationalist anthem as

people began throwing stones and bottles in the sports stadium where the show was being staged on Saturday night. It was unclear what started the violence.

The concert was aborted minutes later as police fired warning shots to disperse the crowd, the Jakarta Post said.

China to further trim its military

BEIJING — China will cut an additional 200,000 soldiers as part of efforts to modernize its armed forces, state media reported Monday, quoting military commission chief and retired president Jiang Zemin.

The cuts were reported by the official Xinhua news agency and come on top of an already-announced 500,000-man reduction over the five years ending in 2005.

Altogether, the military will shrink from about 2.5 million people to about 1.8 million.

The cuts will coincide with the introduction of more high-tech battle systems, Xinhua said.

"With the introduction of new technology — especially information technology — international competition in the area of military affairs is getting hotter," Jiang was quoted as saying at 50th-anniversary celebrations for the National Defense Science and Technology University on Monday.

China's military is still oriented toward ground combat with huge numbers of troops. Its planes, tanks and ships are antiquated and its soldiers are poorly trained.

By reducing military manpower, China can "maximize the use of its limited strategic resources and speed up information technology development in the military," Jiang was quoted as saying.

Chinese military planners consider the United States to be their biggest threat and have spent years trying to refocus their forces to keep up with American advances in modern warfare.

Beijing has spent billions of dollars in recent years upgrading its arsenal with Russian-made fighter jets, submarines and other weapons. China's reported military budget rose by nearly 10 percent this year to \$22.4 billion, though analysts say the total could be five times that.

The Chinese military has also shifted strategy to dovetail with its highest priority — uniting the island of Taiwan with the communist-ruled mainland.

The shift in strategy moves away from the notion of sending waves of troops across the Taiwan strait. Instead, China is believed to be focusing on the prospect of an air and sea blockade and the use of high-tech missiles and even computer viruses to cripple its rival's economy.

From wire reports

Charles Bronson dies at 81

Charles Bronson, the grim-faced tough guy who built a European following before making his mark in the United States with action films including the "Death Wish" series, wondered if he was too manly to achieve instant stardom in his home country.

"Maybe I'm too masculine," he said in a 1971 interview. "Casting directors cast in their own, or an idealized image. Maybe I don't look like anybody's ideal."

The 81-year-old actor died Saturday of pneumonia at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles with his wife at his bedside, publicist Lori Jonas said. He had been in the hospital for weeks.

During the height of his career, Bronson was hugely popular in Europe; the French knew him as "le sacre monstre" (the sacred monster), the Italians as "Il Brutto" (the ugly man). In 1971, he was presented a Golden Globe as "the most popular actor in the world."

His early life gave no indication of his later fame. He was born Charles Buchinsky on Nov. 3, 1921 — not 1922, as studio biographies claimed — in Ehrenfeld, Pa. He was the 11th of 15 children of a coal miner and his wife, both Lithuanian immigrants.

Drafted in 1943, he served with the Air Force in the Pacific, reportedly as a tail gunner on a B29.

He was attracted to acting, he claimed, because of any artistic urge; he was impressed by the money movie stars could earn. He joined the Philadel-

Faces 'n' places

phia Play and Players Troupe, painting scenery and acting in a few minor roles.

Bronson's first starring role came in 1958 with "Machine-Gun Kelly," an exploitation film made in eight days. He also appeared in two brief TV series, "Man with a Camera" (1958) and "The Travels of Jamie McPheeters" (1963).

His status grew with impressive performances in "The Magnificent Seven," "The Great Escape," "The Battle of the Bulge," "The Sandpiper" and "The Dirty Dozen." But real stardom eluded him, his rough-hewn face and brusque manner not fitting the Hollywood tradition for leading men.

Among his films abroad was a hit spaghetti western, "Once Upon a Time in the West." Finally Hollywood took notice.

Among his starring films: "The Valachi Papers," "Chato's Land," "The Mechanic," "Valdez," "The Stone Killer," "Mr. Majestyk," "Breakout," "Hard Times," "Breakout Pass," "White Buffalo," "Telefon," "Love and Bullets," "Death Hunt," "Assassination," "Messenger of Death."

His most controversial film came in 1974 with "Death Wish." As an affluent, liberal architect, Bronson's life is shattered when young thugs kill his wife and rape his daughter. He vows to rid the city of such

vermin, and his executions brought cheers from crime-weary audiences.

Bronson is survived by his wife, Kim, six children and two grandchildren.

Ex-singer: Add Muslim schools

Speaking in Chicago about the school he started soon after converting to Islam in the 1970s, the former pop star formerly known as Cat Stevens urged American Muslims to start religious schools in their communities.

Stevens, who now uses the name Yusuf Islam, said he got the idea when the prayer leader at his mosque gave a sermon about the importance of Muslim schools and asked the singer for a donation.

"So I wrote a check, a big check," he said Saturday, joking with the audience about his former life. "I was still a pop star at the time."

He and other parents from the mosque who met each Sunday then decided to start their own school, he said. It opened in 1983 in London.

He urged American Muslims to follow suit. "Once a Muslim school is established it indicates the arrival of the community in that place," he said.

Born Stephen Georgiou, he took Cat Stevens as a stage name and had a string of hits in the early 1970s, then embraced Islam in 1977 and abandoned his career.

From The Associated Press

Steelers LB Porter shot

DENVER — Gunfire outside a bar after a college football game early Sunday left one man dead and wounded five other people — including Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker Joey Porter.

Porter was in serious condition but the injury wasn't life-threatening, police spokesman Sonny Jackson said. The dead man was identified as Christopher Wilford, 28.

Porter, 26, was an innocent bystander, Jackson said. "There was no confrontation or altercation that we know of at this time," he said.

The victims were shot outside a Denver bar following the Colorado-Colorado State football game. Porter, an All-Pro linebacker and five-year NFL veteran, is a CSU graduate.

Jackson said the shots were fired from outside a fenced-in parking lot where the victims were standing just before 2 a.m.

James Greer, manager of the All Sports Bar & Grill in northeast Denver, said everyone had left the bar at the time of the shooting, and added that there had been no fights or arguments beforehand.

"Joey had been to the game and he came down here to patronize our business. This is very sad, I hope it doesn't interfere with his playing," Greer said.

No arrests had been made by Sunday afternoon. Steelers coach Bill Cowher said the team would not place Porter on injured reserve, which would sideline him for the season.

"The bullet entered his left buttocks and is lodged in his right thigh," Cowher said. "All the preliminary tests are being done and, at this time, it looks as though the bullet did not hit any vital organs. He is resting comfortably in the hospital and we are in the process of ... trying to fly him back here" on Monday.

Cowher did not speculate how long Porter would be out. Losing Porter for a substantial period would be a major blow to a defense that was the NFL's best in 2001 and ranked seventh overall last season.

"Joey's going to be fine; he'll be back," Cowher said.

NFL briefs

Losing Porter for a substantial period would be a major blow to a defense that was the NFL's best in 2001 and ranked seventh overall last season.

Clark Haggans, who played mostly as a rush end in the Steelers' dime defense last season, likely will start Sunday's opener against Baltimore.

Cowher talked to Porter on Sunday and said the linebacker was distraught over getting hurt with the season about to start. The Steelers otherwise came through the preseason with no serious injuries.

"He's as well as can be expected. He feels like he's let the football team down. He was really emotional," Cowher said.

Lions trade for Gary as insurance at RB

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — The running-back depleted Detroit Lions acquired Olandis Gary from the Buffalo Bills for an undisclosed 2004 draft pick on Sunday, giving the team another option for replacing injured starter James Stewart.

"Given the health of our situation at tailback, a trade was a possibility, so we pursued it," Lions coach Steve Mariucci said. "He gives us another veteran back onboard."

"We don't know how long James will be out so we felt to shore up that situation, adding a back like Olandis Gary gives us a bit of a security blanket."

Stewart is expected to miss up to six weeks after dislocating his right shoulder in Detroit's preseason finale, a 22-16 loss to Buffalo on Thursday.

Without Stewart, who led Detroit in rushing the past three seasons, the Lions had no proven backup to step in. Detroit's choices were limited to Shawn Bryson, who's coming off knee surgery; Avon Cobourne, an undrafted free agent out of West Virginia;

and Autry Denson, a four-year journeyman cut Sunday to make room for Gary.

Mariucci said he will not select a starting running back until later in the week, after he sees Gary practice.

Springs out for 8 weeks

KIRKLAND, Wash. — Shawn Springs will miss the first half of the Seattle Seahawks' season because of a broken bone in his shoulder.

The cornerback was injured in the first quarter of Friday night's loss to Denver in a collision with running back Mike Anderson. The Seahawks said Sunday he would miss eight weeks.

With Springs out, the Seahawks will go with first-round draft pick Marcus Trufant of Washington State and Ken Lucas as their starting corners.

Colts send S Coady to Rams

INDIANAPOLIS — The Colts traded safety Rich Coady to the St. Louis Rams for a conditional seventh-round draft pick, less than six months after signing him as an unrestricted free agent.

St. Louis needed help in the secondary after losing starting safety Jason Sehorn and his replacement, Kim Herring, to injuries.

Herring broke his left forearm on the opening kickoff Aug. 23 against Buffalo and is expected to miss another seven weeks. Sehorn broke his left foot in practice July 27 and is expected to miss at least the first four regular-season games.

Titans cut O'Donnell

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee Titans cut veteran quarterback Neil O'Donnell on Sunday to make room under the salary cap to add defensive help. Billy Volek will open the season as backup to starter Steve McNair.

From The Associated Press

Phillies 4, Mets 1

NEW YORK — Vicente Padilla held New York hitless for six innings and Jim Thome homered as Philadelphia completed a three-game sweep of the Mets Sunday.

Mets rookie Jose Reyes, who broke up the no-hit bid with an infield single leading off the seventh, sprained his left ankle trying to break up a game-ending double play.

Reyes writhed in pain on the infield dirt while fans and teammates watched in a hushed Shea Stadium. Trainers and Mets manager Art Howe rushed to Reyes' side, and he was carted off the field as fans filed toward the exits. The team listed him as day to day with a Grade II sprain.

Padilla (12-9) allowed one run and

National League

two hits without issuing a walk in eight innings. He struck out five, improving to 7-1 career against the Mets.

Jose Mesa pitched the ninth for his 24th save in 27 chances.

Jae Weong Seo (8-9) took the loss.

Cardinals 5, Reds 0

CINCINNATI — Albert Pujols homered twice and tied a career high with five RBIs, and Sterling Hitchcock threw six shutout innings for St. Louis.

Pujols has 38 homers this season, and 108 for his career to move past Joe DiMaggio for third place on the list for most homers in a player's first three years.

Hitchcock (2-0) allowed three hits, walked one and struck out four in his first start for the Cardinals, who won for the fourth time in five games.

Cal Eldred, Steve Kline and Russ Springer each pitched one inning of scoreless relief to complete the shutout.

Danny Serafini (0-2) took the loss in his second start since signing with Cincinnati out of the Mexican League.

Braves 10, Pirates 4

PITTSBURGH — Andruw Jones, Vinny Castilla and Javy Lopez homered and Atlanta roughed up Pittsburgh's pitching staff for the second straight day.

The Braves can complete a sixth 100-victory season under manager Bobby Cox by going 13-13 in September. Only the Yankees' Joe McCarthy has managed six 100-victory seasons with the same team.

Shane Reynolds (11-7) again benefited from generous offensive support while allowing four runs and nine hits over 7 1/3 innings.

Reynolds has a 5.34 ERA, but the Braves have averaged 6.6 runs in his 25 starts.

Jones hit a three-run homer down the left-field line in the first to give the Braves a 3-0 lead against Jeff D'Amico (8-13), who gave up seven runs and 10 hits in three-plus innings.

Continued on Page 10

No. 5 Texas 66, New Mexico St. 7

AUSTIN, Texas — Selvin Young returned two kicks for touchdowns and Derrick Johnson and Michael Huff returned interceptions for two more Sunday night as No. 5 Texas overwhelmed New Mexico State 66-7 in the opener for both teams.

Chance Mock passed for two touchdowns in his first career start.

Both went to Roy Williams, who extended his school record with his sixth straight 100-yard receiving game.

Mock's backup, Vince Young, got into the act too, adding a pair of rushing touchdowns in the fourth quarter.

Selvin Young's return in the second wiped out a 7-0

College football

New Mexico State lead and started the rout. He also had a 39-yard punt return for a TD in the fourth.

Sparked by Young's kickoff return, Texas exploded for 31 points by halftime to get its 20th straight victory at Royal-Memorial Stadium, a streak that dates to 1999.

No. 9 Virginia Tech 49, Central Florida 28

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Bryan Randall gave Marcus

Vick a tension-free stage for his Virginia Tech debut, but the No. 9 Hokies had plenty to worry about before they got it together and beat Central Florida.

Randall directed three touchdown drives in as many tries before yielding for a second-quarter series to Michael Vick's younger brother. When Vick led the team 80 yards, it was 28-0 and looking really easy.

But then the Golden Knights, using an effective mix of Ryan Schneider's passing, Alex Haynes' running and a 56-yard trick play, closed within 28-21 before two Hokies touchdowns 39 seconds apart put it away.

Schneider was 23-for-35 for 203 yards. He hit Tavaris Capers for touchdowns of 11 and 7 yards, and Johnson for one of 11 yards.

From The Associated Press

Continued from Page 8

Labonte used a quick pit stop to take control in 54th running of NASCAR's oldest 500-mile race.

Labonte, whose last victory came in Texas in March 1999, went ahead for the first time on lap 335 of 367 when his crew changed four tires and filled his Chevy with gas in 13.11 seconds.

DENVER — Bruno Junqueira earned his second consecutive victory in the CART Grand Prix of Denver on Sunday, overtaking Oriol Servia in the pits midway through the race and leading the final 44 laps.

CLERMONT, Ind. — Reggie Showers, a double amputee, raced to victory Saturday night in the K&N Filters Pro Bike Klash at Indianapolis Raceway Park.

Showers earned \$15,000 for winning

Sports in brief continued

the event that featured the top eight riders in qualifying throughout the last year.

TRACK AND FIELD

SAINT-DENIS, France — The United States swept three relays Sunday at the world championships to finish on top of the medals table.

The U.S. squad struck gold in the men's 400- and 1,600-meter relays, and the women's 1,600 relay.

Americans took home 20 medals, 10 of them gold, to lead all nations in the nine-day meet. Next was Russia with 19 medals, including six golds.

Kenya earned its first gold medals of

the meet on the last day, as Eliud Kipchoge won the men's 5,000 meters and Catherine Ndereba won the women's marathon.

GOLF

NORD-EICHENRIED, Germany — Lee Westwood birdied six of his last eight holes in a 6-under-par 66 for a three-stroke victory at the BMW Open and his first victory in nearly three years.

Westwood finished at 19-under 269, three shots ahead of Germany's Alexander Cejka.

ALOHA, Ore. — Tom Watson made a 4-foot birdie putt on the final hole to

win the Jeld-Wen Tradition — the final major this season on the Champions Tour — by one stroke.

Watson, Tom Kite, Gil Morgan and third-round leader Jim Ahern were tied for the lead at 14-under after 17 holes.

Watson birdied No. 18 to finish with a 2-under 70 while the other three made par.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Candie Kung won her second straight title and third of the year when she was declared the winner of the rain-shortened LPGA State Farm Classic.

All players teed off before 9 a.m., but as the final group began its round, play was suspended due to heavy rain. After 3 1/2 hours, officials decided the Rail Golf Course was too wet.

Kung finished at 14-under-par 202 after 54 holes.

From The Associated Press

National League continued

Continued from Page 9

Marlins 5, Expos 3

MIAMI — Derrek Lee hit a three-run homer and Mark Redman snapped a personal three-game losing streak as Florida beat Montreal for its third consecutive victory.

The Marlins won without injured third baseman Mike Lowell, who is out for the rest of the regular season with a broken left hand.

They also remained tied with Philadelphia atop the National League wild-card race.

Redman (11-8) gave up six three runs on six hits and struck out 10 in six innings.

Zach Day (7-6) took the loss for the Expos, who fell to 4-17 away on the road since the All-Star break and dropped three games behind the Phillies and Marlins in the NL wild-card race.

Padres 3, Astros 1

HOUSTON — Jake Peavy and four relievers combined on a three-hitter as San Diego dropped Houston into second place in the NL Central.

Mark Loretta hit a two-run single for the Padres, who won the series 2-1 and improved to 11-4 at Minute Maid Park.

Peavy (10-10) allowed one run and one hit in six innings, while striking out 10. Peavy retired 10 batters in a row from the third through sixth before being lifted for a pinch hitter in the seventh.

Scott Linebrink, Mike Matthews, Jay Witasick and Rod Beck, who got his 20th save in as many chances, completed the three-hitter.

Ron Villone (6-3) took the loss.

Brewers 2, Cubs 0

CHICAGO — Doug Davis pitched into the ninth inning and right fielder Jason Conti made a sliding, game-ending catch with the bases loaded to preserve the 12th victory in 13 games for Milwaukee.

The Brewers, who had a 10-game win-

ning streak snapped Friday, won their fourth straight series — the first time they've done that since August 1996.

The Cubs lost for the fourth time in five games, dropping 2½ games behind St. Louis in the NL Central, and 3½ back in the wild-card race.

Davis (2-0) spent most of the first half of the season with Toronto, and signed as a free agent with the Brewers. He's won his past two starts, giving up just an unearned run, and his ERA in four starts with Milwaukee is 0.95.

Danny Kolb earned his 14th save in 15 chances.

Juan Cruz (1-5) allowed two runs and six hits in 5⅓ innings.

Giants 3, Diamondbacks 1

PHOENIX — Jason Schmidt pitched into the ninth inning and San Francisco beat Arizona.

The Giants beat the Diamondbacks for the 12th time in 15 meetings.

Schmidt (14-5) allowed seven hits, struck out six and walked one. Brandon Webb (8-7) matched his career high with 11 strikeouts in the loss.

Dodgers 3, Rockies 0

LOS ANGELES — Eric Gagne tied the major league record with his 54th consecutive save as Los Angeles beat Colorado.

Gagne, moved to the bullpen during spring training last year after two mediocre seasons as a starter, preserved the victory for Odalis Perez (11-10).

Gagne gave up a hit and struck out two in the ninth, equaling the mark Tom Gordon set with Boston in 1998-99. The save was Gagne's 46th this season without a miss — also a major league record.

Jerome Burnitz hit a tiebreaking RBI single during a three-run seventh, helping Los Angeles complete a three-game sweep.

Perez held the Rockies to five hits — two by Colorado starter Darren Oliver (10-10) — in seven innings. The loss was the eighth straight on the road for the Rockies.

From The Associated Press

Scores/standings

American League

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	83	52	.615	—
Boston	78	58	.574	5½
Toronto	67	69	.493	16½
Baltimore	61	75	.449	22½
Tampa Bay	53	82	.393	30

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	73	64	.533	—
Kansas City	70	64	.522	1½
Minnesota	71	65	.522	1½
Cleveland	61	76	.445	12
Detroit	34	101	.252	38

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	82	55	.599	—
Seattle	80	57	.584	2
Anaheim	66	70	.485	15½
Texas	62	75	.453	20

Sunday's games

Chicago White Sox 6, Detroit 1
Cleveland 5, Toronto 4
Anaheim 7, Kansas City 4, 1st game
Anaheim at Kansas City, ppd., rain, 2nd game
N.Y. Yankees 8, Boston 4
Oakland 4, Tampa Bay 3
Seattle 3, Baltimore 0
Texas 11, Minnesota 10

National League

East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	87	49	.640	—
Florida	73	63	.537	14
Philadelphia	73	63	.537	14
Montreal	71	67	.514	17
New York	59	76	.437	27½

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	72	64	.529	—
Houston	71	65	.522	1
Chicago	69	66	.511	2½
Pittsburgh	62	72	.463	9
Milwaukee	60	76	.441	12
Cincinnati	59	77	.434	13

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	82	53	.607	—
Los Angeles	71	64	.526	11
Arizona	70	66	.515	12½
Colorado	65	74	.468	19
San Diego	55	82	.401	28

Sunday's games

St. Louis 5, Cincinnati 0
Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Mets 1

Atlanta 10, Pittsburgh 4
Florida 5, Montreal 3
San Diego 3, Houston 1
Milwaukee 2, Chicago Cubs 0
Los Angeles 3, Colorado 0
San Francisco 3, Arizona 1

Men's college football Top 25 fared

How the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college football poll fared this week:

No. 1 Oklahoma (1-0) beat North Texas 37-3.

No. 2 Ohio State (1-0) beat No. 17 Washington 28-9.

No. 3 Miami (1-0) beat Louisiana Tech 48-9, Thursday.

No. 4 Michigan (1-0) beat Central Michigan 45-7.

No. 5 Texas (1-0) beat New Mexico State 66-7, Sunday.

No. 6 Auburn (0-1) lost to No. 8 Southern Cal 23-0.

No. 7 Kansas State (2-0) beat Troy State 41-5.

No. 8 Southern Cal (1-0) beat No. 6 Auburn 23-0.

No. 9 Virginia Tech (1-0) beat UCF 49-28, Sunday.

No. 10 Pittsburgh (0-0) did not play.

No. 11 Georgia (1-0) beat Clemson 30-0.

No. 12 Tennessee (1-0) beat Fresno State 24-6.

No. 13 Florida State (1-0) beat North Carolina 37-0.

No. 14 LSU (1-0) beat Louisiana-Monroe 49-7.

No. 15 Maryland (0-1) lost to Northern Illinois 20-13 OT, Thursday.

No. 16 North Carolina State (1-0) beat Western Carolina 59-20.

No. 17 Washington (0-1) lost to No. 2 Ohio State 28-9.

No. 18 Virginia (1-0) beat Duke 27-0.

No. 19 Purdue (0-0) did not play.

No. 20 Notre Dame (0-0) did not play.

No. 21 Wisconsin (1-0) beat West Virginia 24-17.

No. 22 Arizona State (0-0) did not play.

No. 23 Colorado State (0-1) lost to Colorado 42-35.

No. 24 Oklahoma State (0-1) lost to Nebraska 17-7.

No. 25 TCU (0-0) did not play.

From The Associated Press

Yankees 8, Red Sox 4

BOSTON — Roger Clemens got his 100th victory at Fenway Park in his final regular-season start there, and New York moved 5½ games ahead of Boston in the AL East on Sunday.

Clemens allowed four runs on six hits in 6⅓ innings, and the Yankees took two of three games in the series. The capacity crowd gave him a standing ovation when he left and it continued as he stood in the dugout so he came out, waved and tipped his hat.

Boston threatened in the ninth, loading the bases against Jeff Nelson. But Mariano Rivera got his 31st save in 37 chances when he struck out Nomar Garciaparra, who went 0-for-5.

Clemens (13-8) is 100-55 at Fenway, where he played for Boston from 1984-96. He plans to retire after the season and would pitch there again only if the teams meet in the playoffs.

The Yankees scored three runs in the first inning off knuckleballer Tim Wakefield (9-6) but lost Derek Jeter, probably for at least three games, with a rib cage injury.

Athletics 4, Devil Rays 3

OAKLAND, Calif. — Miguel Tejada homered and rookie Rich Harden got his first victory in five starts as Oakland finished a perfect homestand by beating Tampa Bay for its ninth straight victory.

The A's aren't quite halfway to their AL-record streak of 20 straight victories last season, but with 13 victories in their past 15 games, they've taken the AL West lead away from Seattle with 25 games to play.

Harden (4-3) struck out 10 over seven strong innings, allowing five hits and a

walk. Chad Bradford got two outs for his second save.

Aubrey Huff hit a two-run homer and a run-scoring single for the Devil Rays, who lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

Tampa Bay starter Jeremi Gonzalez (6-7) allowed just four hits in eight innings.

Mariners 3, Orioles 0

SEATTLE — Jamie Moyer beat Baltimore for the 14th consecutive time — the longest current streak by a pitcher against one team — and Seattle completed a three-game sweep.

The Mariners stayed two games behind Oakland in the AL West and moved 1½ games ahead of Boston in the wild-card race.

The Orioles lost their season-worst eighth straight game for the second time in August. They've been outscored 45-12 during their current skid.

Moyer (17-6) allowed five hits and one walk in 7⅓ innings as the Mariners got their 15th shutout — tops in the majors — while the Orioles were shut out for the 10th time.

Shigetoshi Hasegawa pitched the ninth for his 14th save in 14 chances.

The Mariners broke a scoreless tie with two runs in the sixth on RBI singles by Carlos Guillen and John Olerud off Jason Johnson (10-6).

Rangers 11, Twins 10

ARLINGTON, Texas — Alex Rodriguez became the second player in major league history with six straight 40-homer seasons, and Einar Diaz sin-

gled home the winning run in the ninth inning as Texas beat Minnesota.

Mark Teixeira hit a tiebreaking, three-run shot to help the Rangers snap a five-game losing streak.

Making his first start at DH since Aug. 4, 2001, Rodriguez hit his 40th homer in the first inning, a two-run drive. Babe Ruth holds the major league record with seven consecutive seasons of 40 or more homers from 1926-32.

Rafael Palmeiro followed with his 32nd homer of the season and the 522nd of his career, passing Ted Williams and Willie McCovey for 13th on the all-time list.

Hank Blalock also connected for Texas. Francisco Cordero (4-6) earned the victory after his ninth blown save.

The Twins tied it at 10 in the ninth on a sacrifice fly by pinch-hitter Jacques Jones.

Denny Hocking went 4-for-4 with a home run and three RBIs for Minnesota. Eddie Guardado (1-5) took the loss.

White Sox 6, Tigers 1

DETROIT — Magglio Ordonez hit a tie-breaking single in the eighth inning and Esteban Loaiza became the AL's first 18-game winner as Chicago beat Detroit.

The White Sox lead the AL Central by 1½ games over Kansas City and Minnesota.

The Tigers lost their 101st game a day after joining the 1962 New York Mets as the only teams in the modern era to lose 100 times before September.

Loaiza (18-6) allowed one run and

four hits, struck out eight and walked one in eight innings.

Joe Crede tied it at 1 with a leadoff homer in the eighth, his 18th, and the White Sox scored four runs in the ninth off reliever Danny Patterson.

Detroit starter Nate Cornejo (6-14) allowed two runs and six hits in 7⅓ innings.

Angels 7, Royals 4

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Scott Spiezio and Garret Anderson each homered and drove in two runs, leading Anaheim past Kansas City in the first game of a scheduled doubleheader.

The second game was postponed by rain.

Chone Figgins also had two RBIs for the Angels. Scot Shields (4-4) went five innings for the victory despite throwing three wild pitches. Troy Percival got his 29th save in 31 chances.

Kansas City's Brian Anderson (10-11) gave up six runs on eight hits over six innings in his second start since being acquired from Cleveland.

Indians 5, Blue Jays 4

CLEVELAND — Ninth-inning throwing errors by catcher Kevin Cash and first baseman Frank Catalanotto allowed Cleveland to score two runs for a victory over Toronto.

Danys Baez (1-7) pitched a scoreless inning for his first victory in exactly a year.

Jason Kershner (0-3) gave up a hit and two unearned runs. He retired one batter in the eighth.

The Blue Jays took a 4-3 lead on Josh Phelps' two-run homer in the sixth.

Alex Escobar hit a solo home run for Cleveland.

From The Associated Press